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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the existing paragraph beginning at page 12, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Complement component C3d homologous sequence

LQNLDGLVQMPSGCGEQNMVLFAPIIYVLQYLEKAGLLTEEIRSRAVGFLEIGYQKELM YKHSNGSYSAFGERDGNGNTWLTAFVTKCFGQAQKFIFIDPKNIQDALKWMAGNQLPS GCYANVGNLLHTAMKGGVDDEVSLTAYVTAALLEMGKDVDDPMVSQGLRCLKNSAT STTNLYTQALLAYIFSLAGEMDIRNILLKQLDQQAIISGESIYWSQKPTPSSNASPWSEPA AVDVELTAYALLAQLTKPSLTQKEIAKATSIVAWLAKQHNAYGGFSSTQDTVVALQAL AKYATTAY

(designated as SEQ ID NO: 21) with PSI-BLAST e-value of 4.4e-87, protein database identification number entry = 1c3d [Research collaboratory for Structural Bioinformatics.

Berman et al., Nucl. Acids Res. 28:235 242 (2000)], verify score = 0.49, located at residues 977-1276 of SEQ ID NO: 4.--

Please replace the existing paragraph beginning at page 13, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Receptor domain alpha-2-macroglobulin domain

NMKTFSL\$VEIGKARCEQPTSPRSLTLTIHTSYVGSR\$SSNMAIVEVKMLSGFSPM EGTNQLLLQQPLVKKVEFGTDTLNIYLDELIKNTQTYTFTISQSVLVTNLKPATIKVYDY YLPGSFKLSQYTIVWSMNND\$

(designated as SEQ ID NO: 22) with PSI-BLAST e-value of 4.4e-52, protein database identification number entry = 1bv8 [Research collaboratory for Structural Bioinformatics.

Berman et al., Nucl. Acids Res. 28:235-242 (2000)), verify score = 0.49, located at residues 1349-1479 of SEQ ID NO: 4.—

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Please replace the existing paragraph beginning at page 134, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Complement component C3d homologous sequence

LQNLDGLVQMPSGCGEQNMVLFAPIIYVLQYLEKAGLLTEEIRSRAVGFLEIGYQKELM YKHSNGSYSAFGERDGNGNTWLTAFVTKCFGQAQKFIFIDPKNIQDALKWMAGNQLPS GCYANVGNLLHTAMKGGVDDEVSLTAYVTAALLEMGKDVDDPMVSQGLRCLKNSAT STTNLYTQALLAYIFSLAGEMDIRNILLKQLDQQAIISGESIYWSQKPTPSSNASPWSEPA AVDVELTAYALLAQLTKPSLTQKEIAKATSIVAWLAKQHNAYGGFSSTQDTVVALQAL AKYATTAY

(designated as SEQ ID NO: 21) with PSI-BLAST e-value of 4.4e-87, protein database identification number entry = 1c3d [Research collaboratory for Structural Bioinformatics. Borman et al., Nucl. Acids Res. 28:235 242 (2000)], verify score = 0.49, located at residues 977-1276 of SEQ ID NO: 4.--

Please replace the existing paragraph beginning at page 135, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Receptor domain alpha-2-macroglobulin domain

NMKTFSLSVEIGKARCEQPTSPRSLTLTIHTSYVGSRSSSNMAIVEVKMLSGFSPM EGTNQLLLQQPLVKKVEFGTDTLNIYLDELIKNTQTYTFTISQSVLVTNLKPATIKVYDY YLPGSFKLSQYTIVWSMNNDS

(designated as SEQ ID NO: 22) with PSI-BLAST e-value of 4.4e-52, protein database identification number entry = 1bv8 [Research collaboratory for Structural Bioinformatics. Berman et al., Nucl. Acids Res. 28:235-242 (2000), verify score = 0.49, located at residues 1349-1479 of SEQ ID NO: 4.--